

REMARKS

Per the prior Action, the claim status is as follows:

Claims 1-17 are pending. Claims 1-5, 7-11, and 14-16 are allowed. Claims 6, 12, and 13 are rejected. Claims 12 and 17 are objected to.

By this Supplemental Amendment, claims 1 and 4-6 are amended. Applicants respectfully request entry, as subsequently analyzed. The basis for all amendments, except for additional amendments to claims 5 and 6 which are explained separately below, is the Examiner's October 12, 2010 telephone call to Applicants' undersigned representative.

Claim 1 is amended to exclude base substitutions within SEQ ID NO. 1.

Dependent claim 2 recites specific types of modifications; because claim 1 specifically excludes base substitutions, Applicants assert that claim 2 further limits the types of modifications, excluding base substitutions, and thus need not be canceled.

Dependent claims 4, 5, and 6 are each amended to clarify that the bases B are selected from SEQ ID NO. 1 or fragments thereof, as claim 1 recites. Thus, the structures recited in claims 4, 5, and 6 clearly require the claim 1 SEQ ID NO. 1 and fragments thereof.

Applicants further amend dependent claims 5 and 6 to align the lengths of the recited structures with the scope of independent claim 1. The amendment corrects discrepancies in the maximum length of the claim 1 sequence. Specifically, in claim 5, $n = 12$ is amended to $n = 11$ because $n = 11$ results in an 18mer, which is the maximum sequence recited in claim 1. In claim 6, $n = 2 - 8$ is amended to $n = 2 - 7$, because $n = 7$ results in an 18mer, which is the maximum sequence recited in claim 1.

All the amendments are thus supported in the application as filed and introduce no new matter.

CONCLUSION

Applicants believe the application is in condition for allowance. No fees are believed due but, if deemed necessary, the Office is authorized to charge them to Deposit Account No. 20-0809.

The Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative with questions.

Respectfully submitted,
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